

# School-Age Children who are Hard of Hearing and Children who have Normal Hearing Needed for Research

The Audibility, Perception, and Cognition Laboratory is conducting a study on how children's ability to understand speech in noisy environments develops over time.

## Who can participate?

- Children between 6 and 12 years of age with permanent, mild to moderately-severe hearing loss in both ears.
- Children between 6 and 12 years of age with normal hearing in both ears.

## What does participation involve?

- Children will be given a series of tasks lasting approximately 2.5 – 4 hours (1.5 – 3 hours for children with normal hearing).
- Participation in this study requires 2 visits to the lab for 1-3 years.
- Children will be asked to:
  - Repeat words and sentences presented in quiet and with background noise.
  - Listen to a series of short noises and indicate which one was different.
  - Explain what words mean or point to pictures of words.
  - Play memory and attention games on the computer.
- If your child wears hearing aids, we will check to make sure they are working optimally. If your child has not had a hearing test in the past 6 months, one will be administered at no cost.

## When can I schedule an appointment?

- Appointments are available weekdays, evenings and some weekends.  
We can try to schedule your visit in conjunction with clinic appointments.

For more information or to schedule an appointment, please contact Merry Spratford at (531) 355-5054 or [meredith.spratford@boystown.org](mailto:meredith.spratford@boystown.org).



Compensation for participating in this study is \$15 per hour. Mileage and travel reimbursement may be provided.

## This study takes place at

Boys Town National Research Hospital  
555 North 30th Street  
Omaha, NE 68131



This study is funded by the National Institute of Health - National Institute on Deafness and other Communication Disorders (NIH-NIDCD) Grant #R01 DC013591.

[boystownhospital.org](http://boystownhospital.org)